

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 03697 200732Z

11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 RSR-01 /082 W

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R 200642Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6994

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 3697

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, YO, UW

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT: PRESIDENT NIXON'S
WATERGATE SPEECH

1. YUGOSLAV PRESS AUGUST 17 CARRIES NEWS REPORTS OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S STATEMENT ON "WATERGATE" WITH SOME COMMENTARY AND SPECULATION ON U.S. REACTION.

2. LEADING BELGRADE DAILY POLITIKA AUG 17 CARRIES PAGE-ONE REPORT ON SPEECH BY NY CORR JURIJ GUSTINCIC. ARTICLE STATES TOO EARLY TO JUDGE EFFECT OF SPEECH ON U.S. PUBLIC OPINION. IF PEOPLE CONTINUE TO DEMAND FULL FACTS, GUSTINCIC WRITES, "SITUATION WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED AND DRAMATIC...BUT IF ESTABLISHMENT OF TRANQUILITY AND ORDER AND LESSENING OF CONFUSION APPEAR TO BE MORE IMPORTANT, THEN HE HAS STRUCK RIGHT NOTE" IN HIS ADDRESS, FOR THIS COULD MEAN TURNING AWAY OF PUBLIC ATTENTION FROM WATERGATE INVESTIGATIONS. TANJUG (WASHINGTON) REPORT IN BELGRADE DAILY BORBA CITES INITIAL U.S. REACTION AS "RESERVED" AND THAT SPEECH OFFERED "NO NEW DISCOVERIES OR ELEMENTS." LJUBLJANA DAILY DELO OFFERS PAGE-ONE EDIT BY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMENTATOR BOZIDAR PAHOR, STATING: "WATERGATE IS NOT ONLY AMERICAN DOMESTIC PROBLEM...BUT IS ALARMING LESSON FOR ALL PEOPLES." EDIT CITES VIETNAM WAR AS CAUSE OF PRESENT SCANDAL, AND CONTINUES: "CYNICISM AND LOSS OF FAITH IN POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS DOES
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NOT CONTRIBUTE TO PEACEFUL AND ENJOYABLE LIFE OF PEOPLE."

3. FULL TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S SPEECH (REUTERS) CARRIED IN
AUGUST 17 "RED TANGUG."
TOON

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NNN

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